



STORIES of STRANGE ADVENTURE

No 37 - OCT.

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE



AUTHORITY

FORBIDDEN WORLDS

10¢

THE CHARACTERS
OF MY STORY...THEY
...THEY'VE COME
TO LIFE!

It WAS A STRANGE STORY
THAT ALEX STONE WROTE! WATCH
IT RETURN TO HAUNT HIM IN THE
YEAR'S MOST AMAZING
ADVENTURE...**"STEP by
STEP"!**





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How 'BLACK BEAUTY' TURNS AN ALSO-RAN into VIDEO VIC!



JOE BONOMO
World's Strongman,
Hero of the
Borough, International
Authority on
Health & Strength.

DEVELOP REAL POWER

INCREASE YOUR STRENGTH • BUILD YOUR BODY

BECOME AN ALL-AROUND WINNER

WIN FRIENDS • GAIN POPULARITY • BE A SUCCESS

JOE BONOMO SHOWS YOU HOW!
Why grope in the dark wishing? Why let other guys run off with your best girl... steal that promotion from you... take away that position on the team? Now, in the amazing new 'Black-Beauty' 5-Cable Progressive Exerciser and Joe Bonomo's personal instruction 'Power-Plus' method you, too, can become an all-around winner!

SCIENTIFIC! AND HOW!

Wait 'til you see what fast progress you make to real power with 'Black Beauty' and Joe Bonomo. They're with you 'til you're "TOPS" in the field.

Bernarr Macfadden says:



"As an instructor in muscle building, you should stand at the head of the list. Many of your pupils already attest to your ability in building better bodies. I can recommend you most highly. Here's wishing you all possible success!"

Jack Dempsey says:

"I consider your 'Power-Plus' Course tops for all-around physical development — power, strength — endurance. The secrets and shortcuts you reveal with your system of body development are miraculous and I cannot endorse your course too highly."



COMPLETE
CABLE

\$4.95

including
'BLACK BEAUTY'
5 CABLE EXERCISER
(Worth 5.95 alone)

CUT OUT THE DREAMING!

Strongmen think fast... act fast! Now that you've made up your mind... do something about it quickly! Get going! Send your order in right away!

ACT NOW FOR FREE OFFER

STRONGMEN'S CLUB OF AMERICA
Joe Bonomo, Director
1841 Broadway, Dept. AC 78
New York 23, New York

MAIL THIS
"NO-RISK"
FORM NOW!

Okay, Joe! Rush me your 'Power-Plus' Cable Course including, FREE of any additional charge, your new 'Black Beauty' 5-Cable Progressive Exerciser. I'll try the 'Power-Plus' Bonomo method for 2 weeks. If I am not 100% satisfied I can return it for an immediate refund.

☐ I enclose \$4.95 in ☐ check, ☐ money order, ☐ cash.
☐ Send C.O.D. for \$4.95 plus shipping charges.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Zone _____ State _____

PLEASE PRINT PLAINLY
Foreign (Except Canadian) Add \$1.05 Additional



YOUR
MONEY BACK
IF NOT SATISFIED

SENT
WITH EVERY
COURSE
FREE

LOOK AT WHAT YOU GET!

This big action-packed 'Power-Plus' CABLE COURSE is literally packed with dynamite... every word batted out for you by Joe Bonomo himself. Many of today's strongmen paid \$25.00 for these same instructions as a personalized mail order course. You get it now for only \$4.95... including Joe Bonomo's famous 'Black Beauty' Progressive 5-Cable Exerciser as a FREE gift to you. Don't wait! Act RIGHT AWAY!



IT'S A FAR CRY FROM THE COURT OF KING ARTHUR TO THE AUDITORIUM OF EAST END HIGH SCHOOL... BUT FRANKIE NESBITT SPANNED THE GAP IN A MIRACULOUS JOURNEY BACK THROUGH TIME! READ THIS GREAT STORY OF...

One EXCITING Knight!



IT WAS REHEARSAL TIME FOR THE SENIOR CLASS PAGEANT...

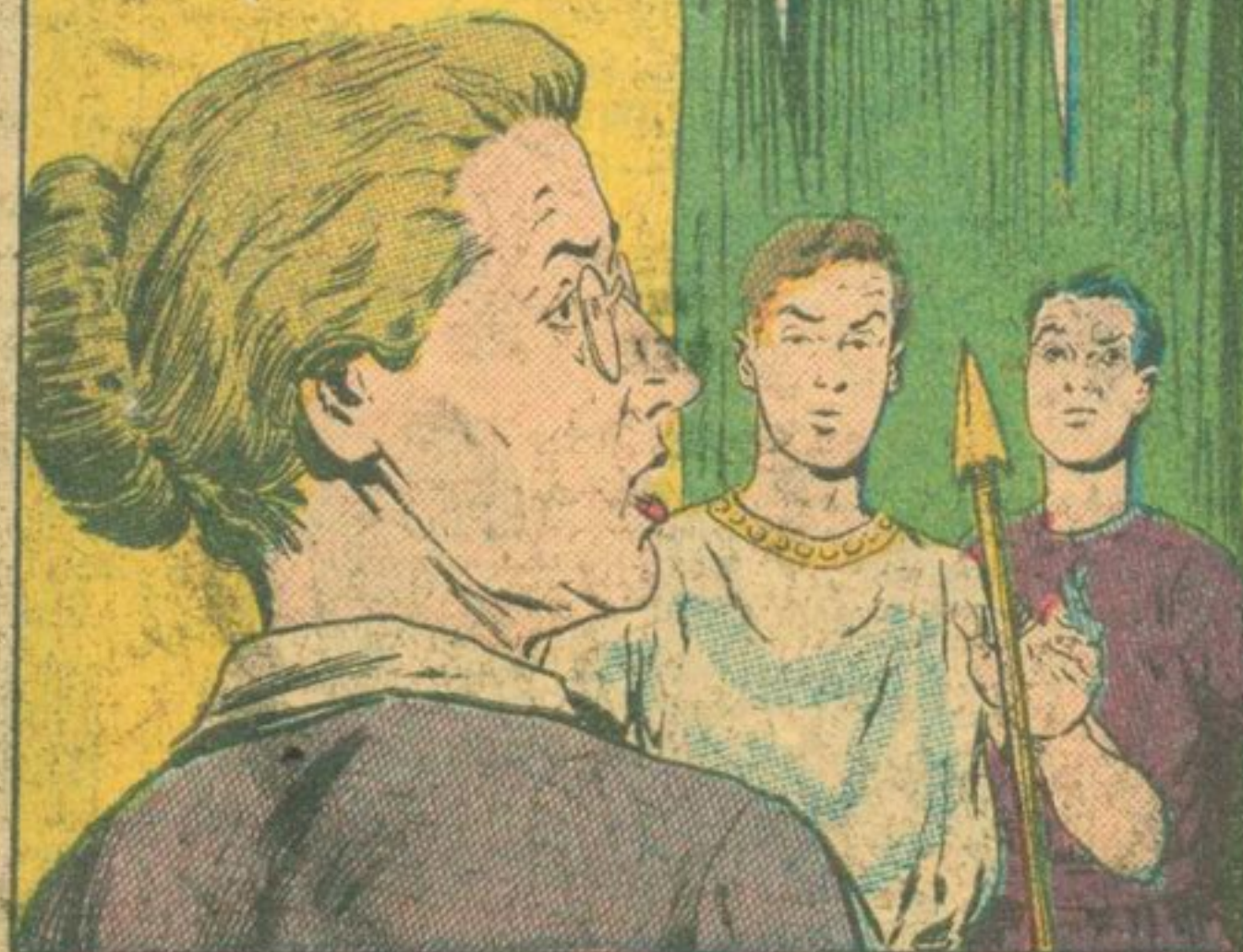
NOW REMEMBER, WE'RE GOING TO MAKE THIS THE **BEST SHOW** THAT EAST END HIGH HAS **EVER** HELD! ARE WE ALL HERE FOR THE RE-HEARSAL?



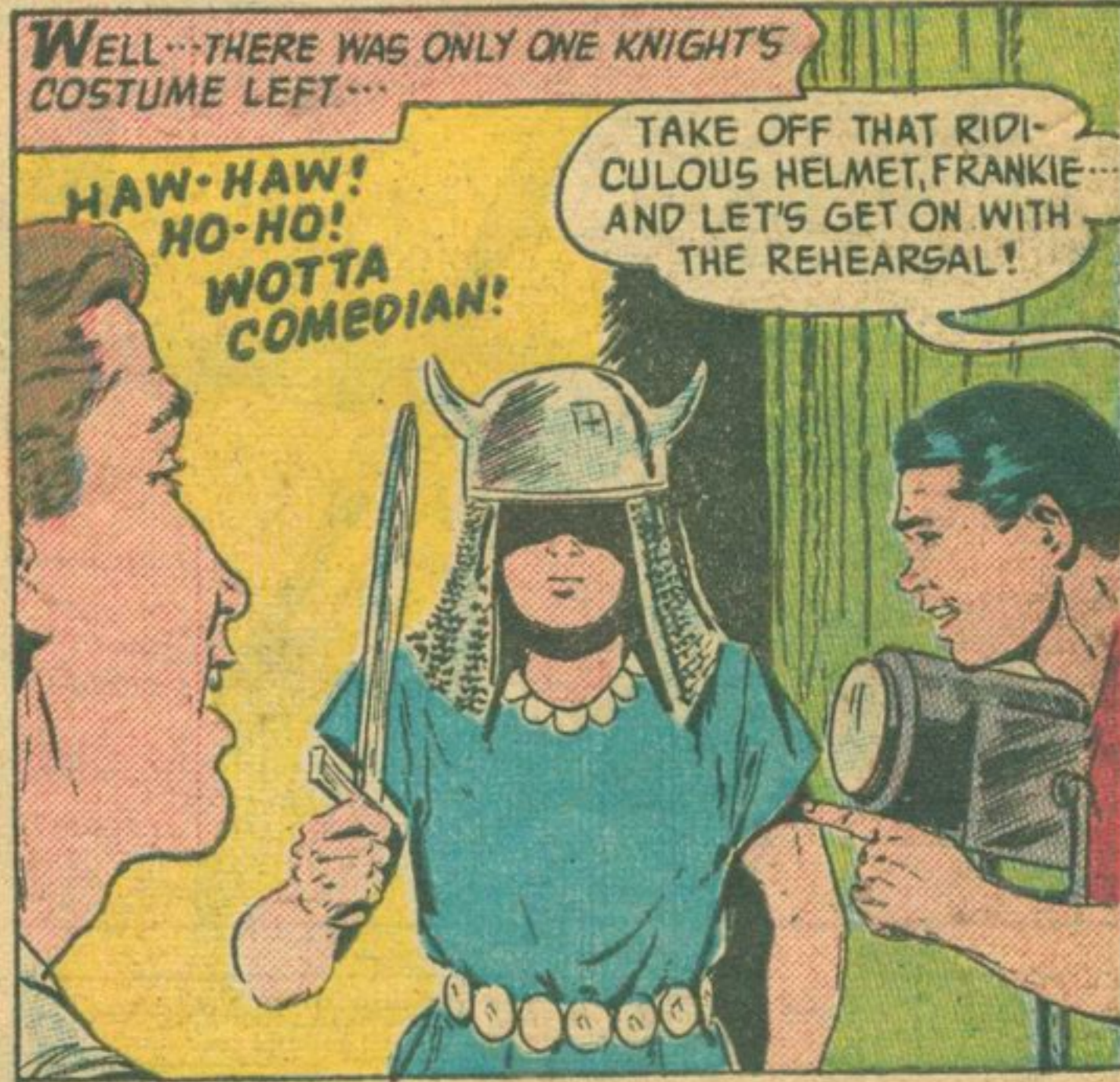
WAIT---WHERE'S **FRANKIE NESBITT**? HE'S SUPPOSED TO PLAY **SIR GAWAIN**... AND WE CAN'T PROCEED WITHOUT HIM!

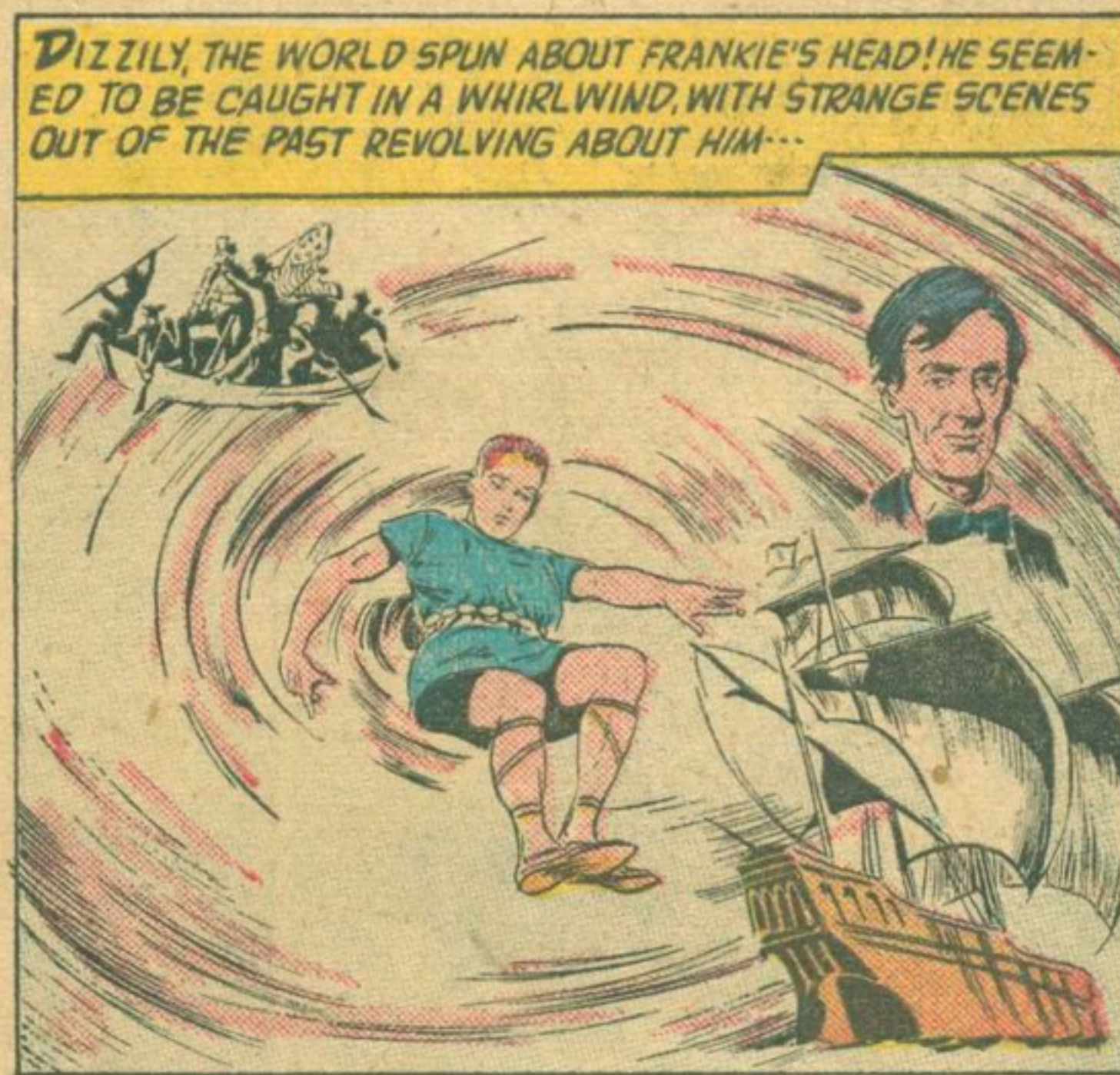
OH---**FRANKIE!**

HIM!



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HOLY H. SMOKE...
IT'S MR. MOYLAN,
THE SUPERIN-
TENDENT!

THE NAME IS **MERLIN**...
ROYAL WIZARD OF THE
COURT OF ENGLAND!



WIZARD? BELIEVE ME,
ALL THAT SUPERSTITIOUS
STUFF IS NO GOOD! WHY
DON'T YOU FORGET IT...
AND **RELAX?**

WHAT...YOU QUESTION MY
MAGIC? ONLY A RIVAL
SORCERER WOULD DARE
DO **THAT!** I CHALLENGE
YOU TO A TEST...WE SHALL
SEE WHOSE MAGIC
IS STRONGER!

NOTHING FRANKIE SAID COULD DO ANY
GOOD...SO THE TEST PROCEEDED...

THERE! EITHER MATCH MY
FEAT...OR SUFFER AWFUL
CONSEQUENCES!

GOSH, I
GOT NOTHIN'
I CAN EVEN
IMPRESS HIM
WITH... 'CEPTIN' MAY-
BE THIS **FOUNTAIN
PEN!** IT'S NO USE... I
...I GOTTA TRY IT!



RAZZMATAZ! MY MAGIC
WAND CHANGES YOUR
FACE TO **BLUE!**



FROM A BALCONY OVERHEAD,
EVIL EYES WATCHED...

HIS MAGIC IS INDEED GREAT!
MAYHAP HE CAN HELP US IN
OUR PLOT!

YOU SPEAK WISDOM,
SIR KAY! SEE THAT HE
IS BROUGHT TO MY
CASTLE AT ONCE!



LATER... THE CASTLE OF QUEEN MORGAN LE FAY, SCHEMING
SISTER OF KING ARTHUR...

EXCUSE ME FOR
STARING THIS WAY...
BUT ARE YOU TWO
RELATED TO **KAYO
JONES** AND **FAY
MORGAN**, IN MY
HOME TOWN? AND
WHAT DO YOU WANT
OF **ME?**

I HAVE AMBITIONS TO RULE OVER
ALL ENGLAND, OH MIGHTY SORCERER!
BUT IT IS WRITTEN THAT FIRST, I
MUST GAIN POSSESSION OF KING
ARTHUR'S MAGIC SWORD,
EXCALIBUR! THOU ART A
WIZARD...THY POWER
CAN GAIN IT FOR US
SAFELY!



AS FOR THY **REWARD**,
I RATHER FANCY THEE
MYSELF! THOU COULDEST
REIGN WITH ME AS
KING...ONCE THOU
SECUREST **EXCALI-
BUR**, OF COURSE!

ME...A **KING?** WHY, I
COULDN'T EVEN MAKE
THE BASKETBALL TEAM
BACK HOME AT EAST END
HIGH! YOU BETTER FIND
YOURSELF ANOTHER
BOY... I WANT **OUT!**





SEIZE HIM! HE SEEKS TO ESCAPE ---HE MAY REVEAL OUR PLOT!

I DARE NOT SEIZE HIM! SEE... HE MENACES ME WITH HIS SORCERY!

YEAH, AND I THINK I'LL GIVE YOU A TASTE OF IT---JUST SO'S YOU'LL KEEP YOUR DISTANCE!



TAKE **THIS**, YOU ---OH-OH! **EMPTY!**

HIS WAND HAS LOST ITS POWER! GRASP HIM, SIR KAY!



NOT SO FAST! THOU'LLT STAY HERE!

ALREADY I HAVE DEVISED A CLEVER PLAN TO GAIN POSSESSION OF THE KING'S GREAT SWORD! LISTEN---



WE SHALL SEIZE KING ARTHUR'S DAUGHTER, THE PRINCESS RUSTALINDA, AND IMPRISON HER ATOP BALD MOUNTAIN---THE REALM OF THE **DRAGON!** AND WE WON'T RELEASE HER UNTIL ARTHUR SENDS **EXCALIBUR** TO US!

HA-HA! ONLY **WE** KNOW THAT THE DRAGON HAS FORSAKEN THESE PARTS--- THERE WON'T BE THE SLIGHTEST DANGER TO US!



THINGS DIDN'T LOOK SO GOOD FOR POOR FRANKIE---

IN THERE! USE YOUR MAGIC TO TRY TO ESCAPE ---WHILE WE SEEK OUT THE PRINCESS RUSTALINDA!



AND AS THE WEARY HOURS PASSED---

AH, ME---



HMMM... THERE COMES THE DRAGON! IT MUST BE BACK AGAIN--- PROBABLY ON ITS WAY HOME TO BALD MOUNTAIN!



JUST THE THING TO CUT
RUSTY LOOSE WITH!



THE BEAST...IT'S COMING THIS
WAY! PROTECT ME, OH NOBLE
SIR FRANKIE!



DON'T BE
AFRAID, RUSTY! I
WON'T LET IT GET
AT YOU...NO MATTER
HOW BIG IT IS!

YOU'VE BEEN MAKING TROUBLE
AROUND HERE **LONG ENOUGH!**



OKAY... YOU ASKED
FOR IT!



AND SUCH WAS THE MAGIC OF KING ARTHUR'S MIGHTY
SWORD EXCALIBUR THAT...



WELL, WHAT
DO YOU
KNOW!

MY DELIVERER!
THOU ART THE BRAVEST
KNIGHT IN ALL ENGLAND!

OH, IT WASN'T
ANYTHING...
MUCH!



IT WAS REFLEX ACTION THAT MADE THE DRAGON'S TAIL
SWISH AT THAT MOMENT---



OH...

ONCE AGAIN, THE WORLD REELED DIZZILY ABOUT FRANKIE, AND HE WAS CAUGHT UP IN THE VORTEX OF TIME...



AND THIS TIME, WHEN HIS EYES OPENED...

PRINCESS RUSTALINDA
...SIR KAY...MERLIN...
MORGAN LE FAY...

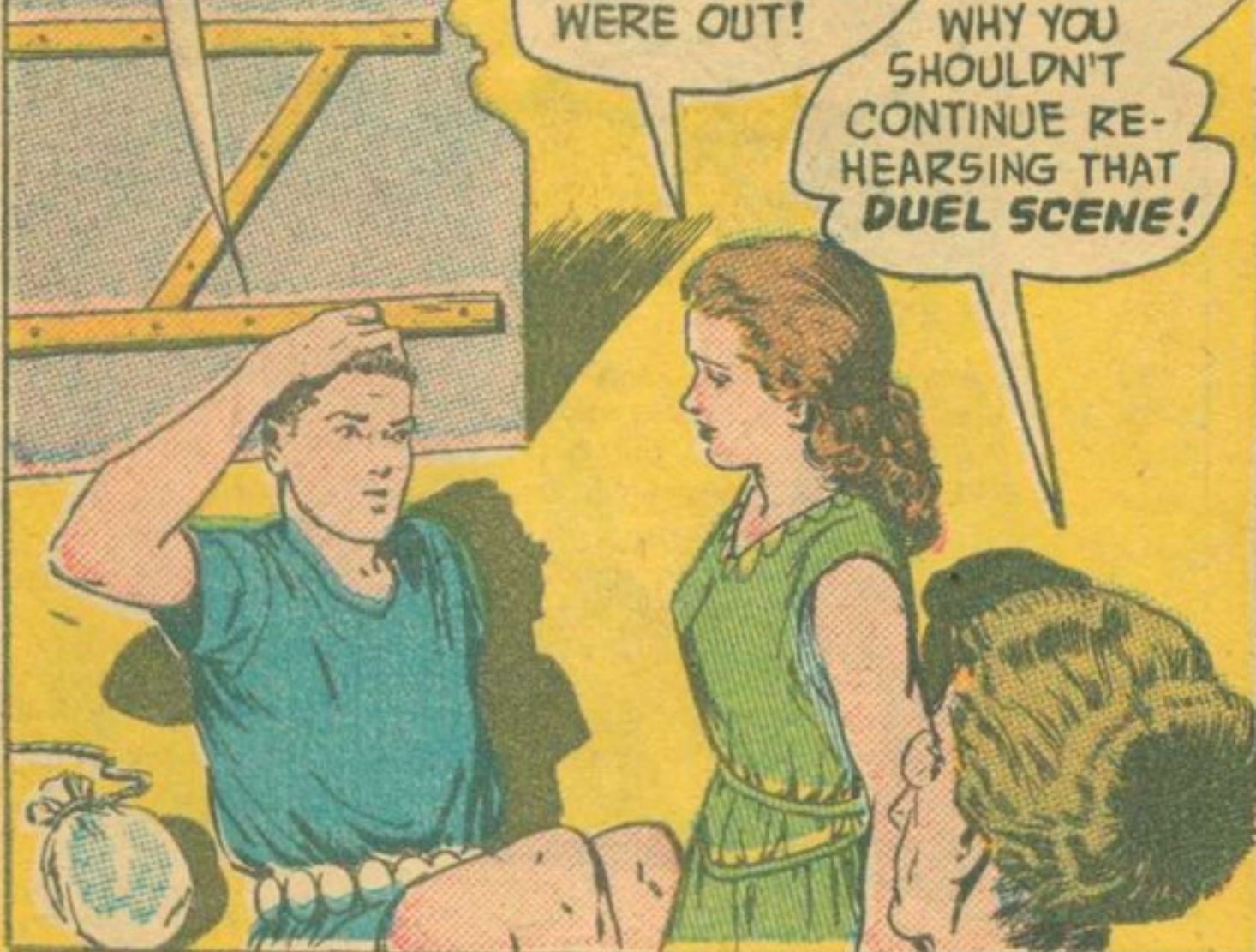
YOU...YOU HURT YOUR
HEAD, FRANKIE! ARE
YOU ALL RIGHT
NOW?



SURE...FIT AS A
FIDDLE! I-I MUST
HAVE BEEN **DREAM-
ING!**

SURE! BUT YOU HAD
ME WORRIED FOR
A WHILE...WITH
ALL THAT WILD
TALK WHILE YOU
WERE OUT!

IF YOU'RE
SURE
YOU'RE ALL
RIGHT, THERE'S
NO REASON
WHY YOU
SHOULDN'T
CONTINUE RE-
HEARSING THAT
DUEL SCENE!



AND SO THE DUEL PROCEEDED! AND SUDDENLY, FRANKIE
BECAME AWARE THAT HE WASN'T HOLDING THE WOODEN
SWORD ANY LONGER! INSTEAD, HE HELD A WEAPON THAT
SEEMED ALMOST TO WIELD ITSELF...TO DRIVE HIS
OPPONENT BACK RELENTLESSLY!

HEY! WHAT
IS THIS,
ANYWAY?



Then...A SINGLE STROKE, AND...

OW-0000000!



I DID IT WITH
MY **MAGIC
SWORD!**

THAT'LL BE
ENOUGH OF
YOUR HARE-
BRAINED NON-
SENSE! WHAT DID
YOU DO WITH YOUR
WOODEN SWORD?
LET ME **SEE** THAT
THING!



OH-HHHHH!



Get Rid of UGLY PIMPLES this new easy way!

Amazing new medicated lotion developed by a doctor works wonders by clearing up skin blemishes in one week or less!

DON'T let a bad complexion ruin romance, spoil your fun, cause you to be embarrassed, shy or ashamed. If you suffer from acne, the common external cause of pimples among young people, try this wonderfully effective medicated lotion that was developed by a practicing physician to clear up his own teen ager's complexion after other methods had failed. It has produced astonishing results for many thousands of others. It is **GUARANTEED** to help you or it won't cost you a single cent!

Doesn't Show On Your Face

Keraplex is a skin-colored lotion (NOT a greasy salve or ointment!) that is quickly absorbed by the skin and gets right down in the pores where its healing and antiseptic ingredients can go to work. After you have applied it, there is no trace left on the surface. In fact, it makes a perfect powder base for girls and a refreshing after shaving lotion for men actually improves the tone of the skin! It is pleasant and easy to use — leaving your skin soft, clean and fragrant.

Works in SIX Out of SEVEN Cases!

An analysis of **RESULTS** taken from actual case histories proves that Keraplex is successful in clearing up six of every seven cases of externally caused blackheads, pimples and other common blemishes. It is also very effective in the treatment of *eczema*. It tones up the complexion generally, giving it a healthy, radiant glow.

Try This New Method Without Risking A Penny!

Keraplex is **GUARANTEED** to clear up your skin troubles or there will be **NO COST** to you whatsoever. If yours happens to be the **ONE** extra-stubborn case out of seven which Keraplex cannot help in one short week, it will cost you nothing to have tried it. Keraplex is sent to you with that simple, positive **GUARANTEE!**

SEND NO MONEY

You need send no money with the coupon below. When postman delivers your Keraplex lotion (in plain wrapper marked "Personal"), deposit with him only the modest price indicated below, plus a few cents postage. Then use your Keraplex morning and night for a full week, following the simple directions which will be enclosed.

If you do not **SEE RESULTS** that delight you — if you are not fully convinced that Keraplex **IS** clearing up your complexion — just return the empty bottle or unused portion and the purchase price will be refunded in full. Don't delay a single day. The longer you let your skin troubles go, the more difficult it will be to clear them up and get your complexion back to a healthy, clear, unblemished condition! Clip and mail the coupon **TODAY**. Underwood Laboratories, Inc., Stratford, Conn.



BEFORE

This young man suffered from a severe case of acne for years and tried all the usual "remedies" without success.



AFTER

Same young man after using KERAPLEX twice a day for just one week. Notice the decided improvement—pimples completely gone!



BEFORE

Note more than a dozen blemishes on just one side of this girl's face before KERAPLEX was applied.



AFTER

Same girl had used KERAPLEX twice a day for only 5 days when above photo was taken. Note the amazing improvement.

WHAT USERS SAY:

"I was suffering from a severe case of acne... and with only 4 days' treatment with Keraplex... was completely relieved."—P. S.

"I have been completely satisfied with your lotion to help clear up the pimples on my face."—K. W.

"I have been using Keraplex for a severe case of eczema on my hands, knees and elbows. Now my skin is completely clear."—A. M. B.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

**UNDERWOOD LABORATORIES, Inc., Dept. 28
STRATFORD, CONN.**

Yes! I want to try Keraplex **ON APPROVAL**. Send size checked below in plain wrapper marked "personal." When it is delivered I will deposit with postman amount indicated below, plus postage. If not delighted with the **RESULTS**, I will return empty bottle within seven days for a full refund of the purchase price.

☐ Regular Size, \$1.98

☐ Double Quantity (Two Bottles), \$3.50

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

☐ **SAVE POSTAGE.** Check here if you **ENCLOSE** payment, in which case we pay postage. Same money-back Guarantee applies!

Payment must be sent with orders going to A.P.O.'s, Canada and foreign countries, due to postal rules.

KNIGHTS' GALLERY

There are no such things as ghosts, and people who believe in spiritual phenomena are superstitious innocents. Just keep this in mind when considering the affair of the *Knights' Gallery*, and remember that there's a perfectly logical reason for whatever happens in this world of ours, without the need for even considering the possibility of a supernatural explanation. All set? Then let's start by telling you that the *Knights' Gallery* is a collection of authentic suits of ancient armor, which had been owned by the late Sir Edmund Osborne of Sussex. Each suit of armor had belonged to one of old Sir Edmund's ancestors, and he loved them as if they were his children. As a matter of fact, they were an obsession with him. He'd polish them personally, crooning to them as if they were alive. Actually, there was only one living person that the old man had loved, and that was Pegeen, his niece, who had lived with him and taken care of him. And wishing to assure her future, he secretly prepared a will bequeathing to her his entire wealthy estate. And then, very old and tired, Sir Edmund had passed away.

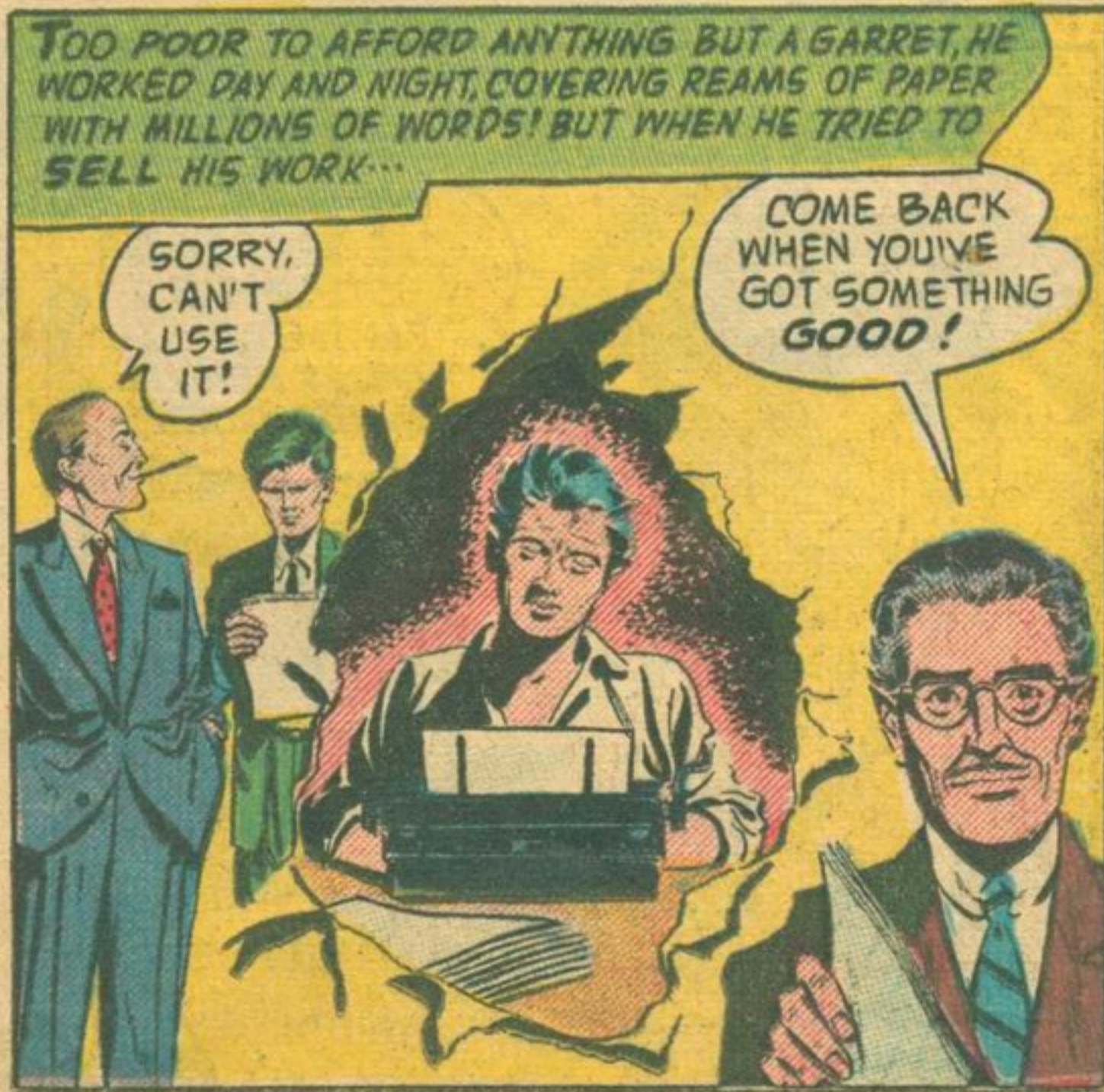
His loss hit Pegeen hard, for they'd been very close to each other. And her grief was such that she deferred looking through his papers, and thus had no opportunity to discover the will which named her as sole heir. This was unfortunate, since somebody else beat her to it. This was Timothy, the younger brother of Sir Edmund. He'd always been the family black sheep, and had hated Edmund, envying him his wealth. And now the will fell into his hands—a document which completely disinherited him.

Sensing the magnificent opportunity which was afforded him, he lost no time in destroying it. Nobody could prove that there *had* been such a will, or that he'd burned it. And, as next of kin, it was automatic that the estate should become his, lock, stock and barrel.

He broke the news to Pegeen in the *Knights' Gallery*. There was only Pegeen to hear—that is, if you didn't count the silent, brooding suits of armor. And you can be sure that Timothy didn't waste any kindness in telling her just how things were! He'd always been envious of the way his older brother had loved her, at the same time he hated *him*. He felt a vast feeling of satisfaction in telling her to pack and be out of the house by morning. And Pegeen fled from the *Knights' Gallery*, sobbing.

Those are the *facts* of the matter. The girl Sir Edmund had cared for so deeply was being driven from the home that was rightfully hers, and there was Timothy Osborne, chortling in triumph amid the silent suits of armor which old Edmund had also cherished. Next morning, he was still there—lifeless. The Coroner's Jury brought in a verdict of death from natural causes—a heart attack, they said. They never *did* explain those bruises on his body. But it couldn't have been foul play, for he'd been all alone in the *Knights' Gallery*—save, of course, for those suits of armor!

And now Pegeen was next of kin—so the estate came to her, after all. And since all's well that ends well, let's not ask any questions. Just remember that there are no such things as ghosts, and people who believe in spiritual phenomena are superstitious innocents!



CONSTANT FAILURE AND OVERWORK SHATTERED HIS NERVES, AND HE SOUGHT THE HELP OF A DOCTOR--

YOU NEED **REST**! HERE, TAKE THESE PILLS, THEY'LL RELAX YOU! THEY'RE A FORMULA I DEvised **MYSELF**!



DISREGARDING THE DOCTOR'S ADVICE, ALEX CONTINUED TO DRIVE HIMSELF LIKE ONE POSSESSED--

WHY CAN'T I COME UP WITH ANY GOOD **IDEAS**? I---I'M TOO **NERVOUS** TO THINK STRAIGHT! BETTER TAKE A COUPLE OF THOSE PILLS!



THOUGH THE MEDICATION MADE HIM SLEEPY, HE FORCED HIMSELF TO SIT AT HIS TYPEWRITER, CLATTERING AWAY TILL THE PRINT SWAM BEFORE HIS EYES AND HIS SENSES REELED--

I---I CAN HARDLY **SEE**... BUT I'VE GOT TO... KEEP WORKING...



NIGHT AFTER NIGHT THE ORDEAL CONTINUED--TILL A STRANGE THING HAPPENED! ALEX HAD BEEN WORKING ON AN ADVENTURE STORY WHEN HE FELL ASLEEP OUT OF SHEER EXHAUSTION AT HIS DESK! WHEN HE AWOKE--

HOLY SMOKE, IT'S PRACTICALLY **NOON**! I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO WORK--CATCH UP--



BUT TO HIS AMAZEMENT--

WH-WHAT'S **THIS**? IT---IT LOOKS LIKE A **COMPLETED STORY**! BUT HOW CAN **THAT** BE?



IT WAS AS IF IT HAD BEEN WRITTEN BY A **STRANGER** AND WHEN HE FINISHED IT--

IT'S **SUPERB** - THE BEST I EVER WROTE! BUT IT'S FANTASTIC--I **DON'T REMEMBER A WORD**!

KNOCK!
KNOCK!



THE MYSTERY DEEPENED--

I HATE TO BOTHER YOU, BUDDY--BUT DO YOU **MIND** NOT TYPING ALL NIGHT? YOU KEPT ME AWAKE TILL NEARLY **DAWN**!

I---I MUST HAVE BEEN WORKING IN A **TRANCE**!







BY NIGHTFALL HE WAS MORE TROUBLED THAN EVER...

WHAT BOTHERS ME **MOST** IS THAT IN MY STORY, THE HERO GETS INVOLVED IN AN INTRIGUE HE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT...AND IS **DESTROYED!**

DARLING, WE CAME HERE TO HAVE **FUN!** STOP **WORRY-ING!**



THERE HAD TO BE SOME REASONABLE EXPLANATION, AND HE DETERMINED TO FIND OUT WHAT IT WAS! AFTER MID-NIGHT, WHILE AMY SLEPT SOUNDLY...

IN THAT TRANCE, I WROTE ABOUT A CERTAIN **WHARF** WHERE THE HERO MET A **BEARDED MAN!** THAT WHARF **SHOULDN'T** EXIST... BUT LET'S SEE IF IT DOES!



CLUTCHING THE PACKET OF MONEY, ALEX THREADED HIS WAY THROUGH A MAZE OF SHADOWED, SINISTER STREETS...

IT...IT'S AS IF I KNEW THESE STREETS BY **HEART!** MAYBE I'M CRAZY, BUT THERE'S **NO TURNING BACK!**



PERHAPS SOMEWHERE, LONG BEFORE, HE HAD SEEN A STREET MAP OF VENICE, AND IT HAD BURNED ITSELF INTO HIS MEMORY! HE REFUSED TO BELIEVE THAT **SUPERNATURAL** FORCES WERE AT WORK, UNTIL...

IT...IT'S A **FUNERAL PROCESS-ION!**



STOP IT! I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE OR WHAT YOU'RE UP TO... BUT YOU'VE GOT TO STOP THIS MACABRE JOKE! I KNOW YOU READ MY STORY AND THERE WAS A BURIAL **THERE!** WHO'S **BE-HIND** THIS?



CALM YOURSELF, MY SON! HAVE YOU NO RESPECT FOR THE DEAD?

GOOD HEAVENS... THEN THIS **ISN'T** A JOKE! IT'S **REAL!**



CONSUMED WITH NAMELESS FEARS, ALEX RAN LIKE ONE POSSESSED, LOSING HIS WAY IN THE TWISTING ALLEYS...

I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF VENICE **IM-MEDIATELY...** BEFORE THE SAME **TERRIBLE FATE** OVERTAKES ME! EVERYTHING I WROTE IN THAT STORY IS COMING **TRUE**... **WITH ME THE VICTIM!**





OH...

YOU'RE LATE!
COME! THE GONDOLA
IS WAITING!



THE...THE
BEARDED MAN!
NO! I WON'T GO
WITH YOU! I
WON'T!

FOOL, YOU
HAVE NO CHOICE!
**SEIZE
HIM!**



RESISTANCE PROVED USELESS! LIKE
A MAN IN THE GRIP OF IRRESISTIBLE
FORCES, ALEX'S WILL POWER DRAINED
AWAY...

ALL...
ALL RIGHT!
I'LL COME...

VERY **WISE!**
COME, WE'RE
NOT FAR FROM
OUR...**DESTI-
NATION!**



THE DESTINATION! DOWN DARK
CANALS FLANKED BY BLACK HOUSES IN
THE DEAD OF NIGHT THE GONDOLA
SLITHERED NOISELESSLY! AND
SO AT LAST ALEX KNEW THE
TRUTH...STEP BY STEP HE WAS
FOLLOWING IN THE PATH OF THE
DOOMED CHARACTER IN A TALE OF
FICTION WRITTEN LONG BEFORE...

I KNOW WHERE WE'RE
GOING...**EXACTLY!** THERE'LL
BE AN OLD **PALACE**, ALMOST
A CRUMBLING RUIN, RIGHT
AROUND THE BEND!



**THE PALAZZO
DEL GIORGI!**
TIE UP AT THE
WHARF...AND
NO NOISE!

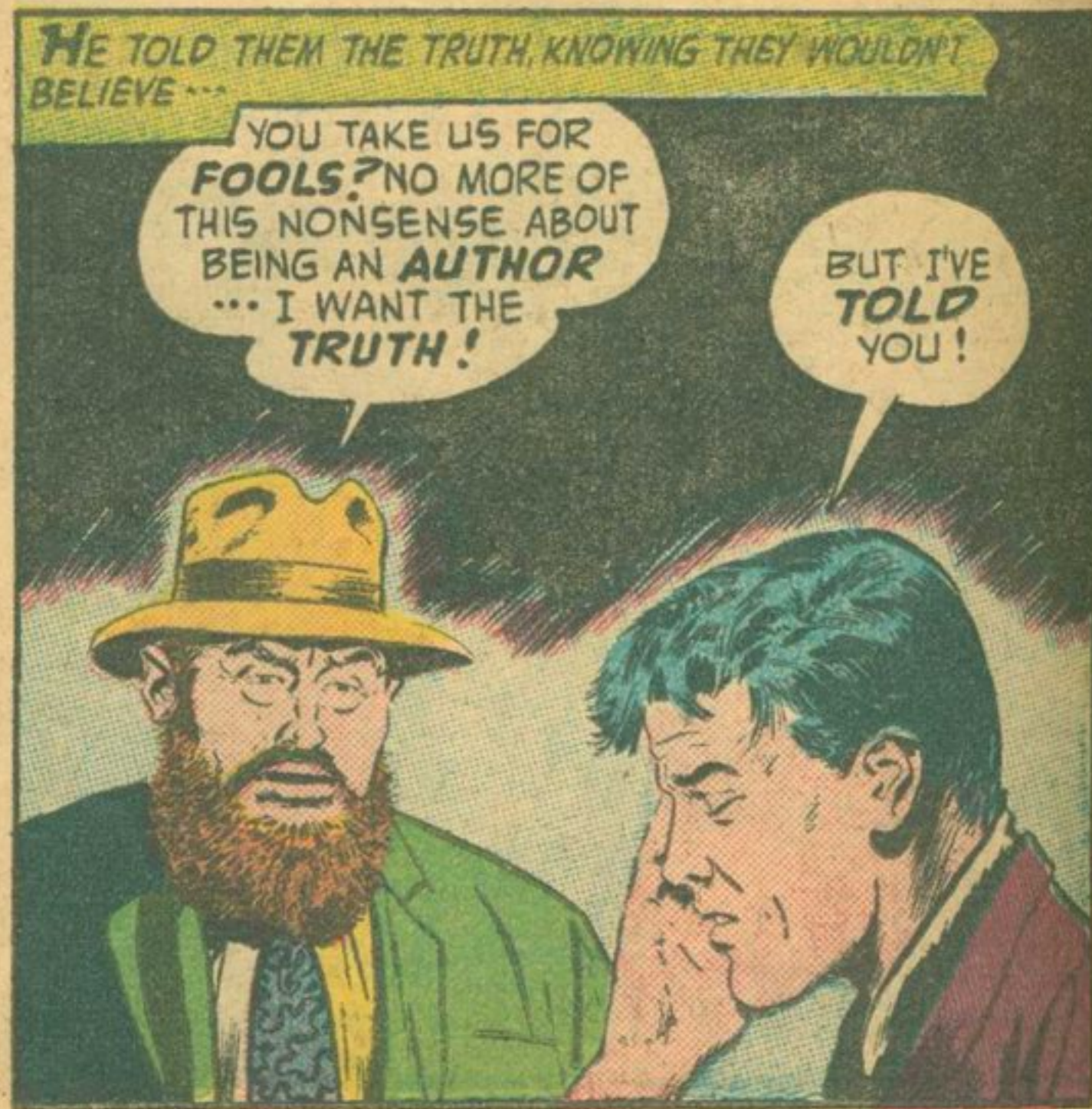
THE PALAZZO
DEL GIORGI! HOW
COULD I HAVE
DESCRIBED IT
SO PERFECTLY
...**WHEN I
DIDN'T EVEN
KNOW ITS
NAME?**



**WITHIN THE MEDIEVAL PALACE, THE SINISTER DRAMA MOVED
TOWARDS ITS PRE-ORDAINED END...**

YOU HAD BETTER TELL
THE **TRUTH!** WE WERE TOLD
TO EXPECT A CERTAIN MESSENGER
AT A CERTAIN PLACE...WITH
YOUR EXACT DESCRIPTION! YOU
HAD THE **MONEY**...SO WHY
DID YOU ATTEMPT TO
ESCAPE?

THIS IS ALL A
MISTAKE! I'M
NOT THE PERSON
YOU WANT!



**HE TOLD THEM THE TRUTH, KNOWING THEY WOULDN'T
BELIEVE...**

YOU TAKE US FOR
FOOLS? NO MORE OF
THIS NONSENSE ABOUT
BEING AN **AUTHOR**
...I WANT THE
TRUTH!

BUT I'VE
TOLD
YOU!



MY PATIENCE IS AT AN END! YOU CHOOSE TO **LIE**... THEREFORE YOU ARE **DANGEROUS!**

WHAT ARE YOU... GOING TO DO?



LEAVE YOU HERE... **FOR-
EVER!**

AND...AND THIS IS WHERE MY STORY **ENDS!** THE HERO IS LEFT IN THIS **CELLAR**...WITH **NO HOPE!**



NEXT MORNING, WHEN AMY AWOK...

NO, MADAME, I **DIDN'T** SEE YOUR HUSBAND GO OUT!

THAT'S FUNNY! I WONDER WHERE HE COULD HAVE GONE?



BY NIGHTFALL SHE WAS FRANTIC...

I KNOW SOMETHING **AWFUL** HAS HAPPENED TO HIM!

CALM YOURSELF, SIGNORA...WE'LL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN!



THE POLICE COMBED VENICE... TO NO AVAIL! SLOWLY, A FANTASTIC THOUGHT TOOK ROOT IN AMY'S MIND...

MAYBE...MAYBE ALL THOSE THINGS THAT WERE HAPPENING TO ALEX **WEREN'T** PART OF AN ELABORATE JOKE! WHAT IF THEY WERE...**THE REAL THING?** IF SO, HE'S IN SOME VENETIAN CELLAR, **ABANDONED**... JUST LIKE IN HIS STORY!



THE SMALL, GNAWING DOUBT BECAME AN OVERWHELMING CONVICTION! HEEDLESS OF HOW IT WOULD SOUND, SHE HYSTERICALLY VOICED HER SUSPICIONS...

SIGNORA, YOU ARE **DISTRAUGHT!** ALL THIS TALK ABOUT OLD PALACES AND CELLARS AND A STORY WRITTEN LONG AGO... **REALLY!**

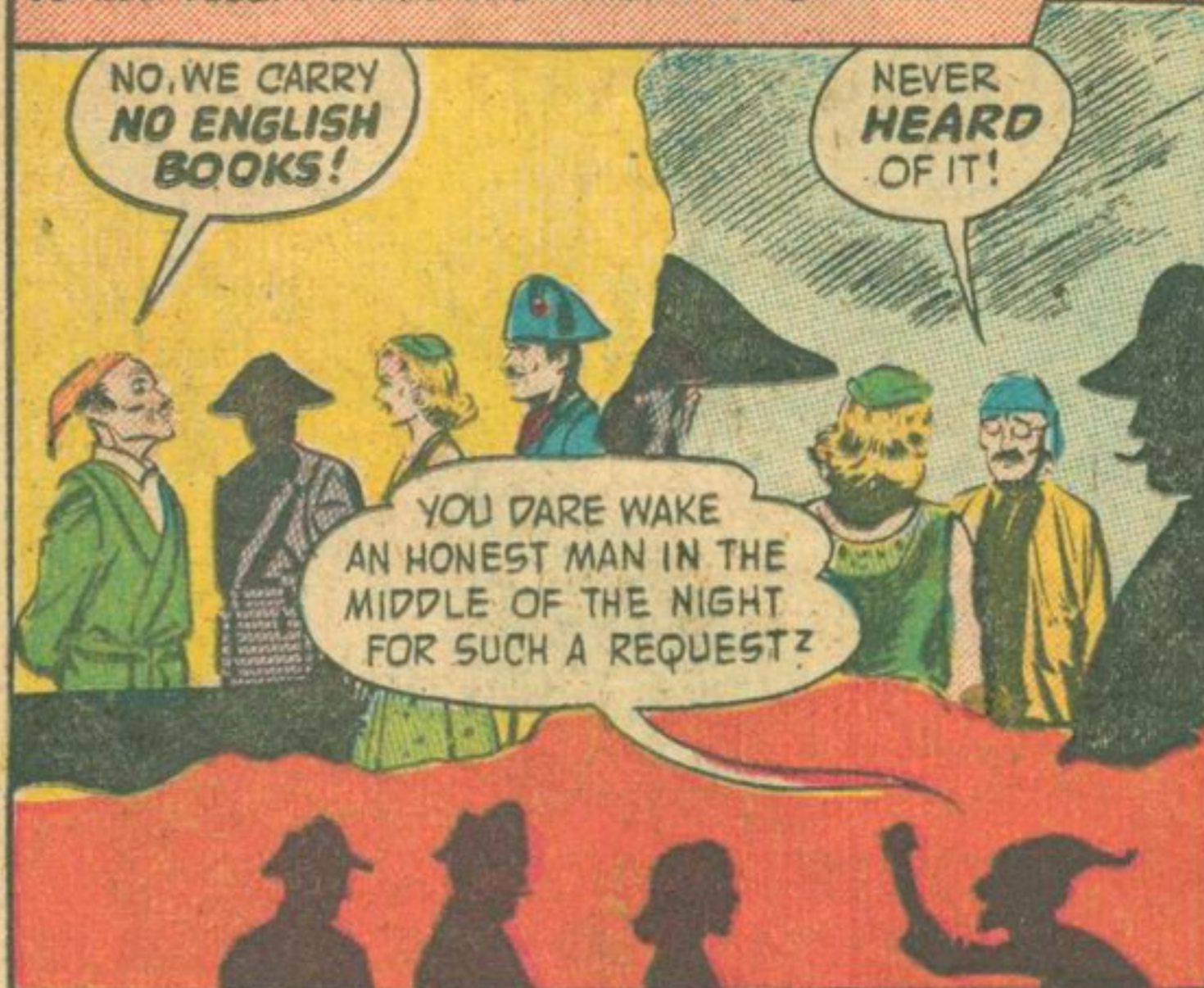
BUT IT MAY BE **TRUE!** LET'S GO LOOK!



BUT IN **WHICH** CELLAR...AND IN WHICH **PALACE?** VENICE HAS **HUNDREDS** OF THEM!

I...I DON'T **KNOW!** BUT ALEX **DESCRIBED** THE PLACE IN HIS STORY! COME ON! WE'RE GOT TO FIND A COPY OF HIS BOOK!

BUT WHERE TO FIND THIS EARLY STORY IN A FOREIGN CITY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT? SUCCUMBING TO AMY'S FRENZY, THE POLICE ASSISTED HER IN HER DESPERATE QUEST! ALL OVER VENICE SLEEPY BOOKSTORE OWNERS WERE ROUSED---



BUT AT LAST--THE VOLUME WAS FOUND! SHE HUNTED WILDLY THROUGH IT UNTIL---



I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF ALL THIS, SIGNORA! IT IS FANTASTIC!

I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT EITHER! BUT ALEX'S LIFE DEPENDS ON IT! **HURRY!**



WITH ALL SPEED THEY REACHED THE PALACE AND BURST IN! KNOWING WHAT SHE WOULD FIND, AMY ACTED---

YOU SEE? UNDER THE RUG! THERE'S THE **TRAP DOOR**... AND ALEX HAS GOT TO BE BELOW! OH, IF WE'RE ONLY IN TIME!

QUICKLY! THERE'S NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE!



RESCUED, ALEX MANAGED TO GASP OUT A DESCRIPTION OF THE CRIMINALS---

YOU SAY A **BEARDED MAN**, MR. STONE? I KNOW **JUST** WHO YOU MEAN! WE'LL HAVE THE WHOLE GANG ROUNDED UP IN **HOURS!**



WHEN HE HAD HAD TIME TO THINK ABOUT THE MEANING OF HIS EXPERIENCE---

YOU SEE, HONEY, I WROTE THAT STORY IN A STATE OF NEAR NERVOUS **COLLAPSE**. IN A SORT OF **TRANCE** BROUGHT ON BY A STRANGE DRUG---AND IT **GAVE ME A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE!** AND THANKS TO YOU---IT **SAVED MY LIFE!**



BUT ONE THING STILL TROUBLED ALEX AS VENICE SLIPPED INTO THE DISTANCE---

THOSE **NERVE PILLS!** THEY CONTAINED SOME STRANGE INGREDIENT WHICH COULD ALLOW MANKIND TO **READ THE FUTURE!** THE DOCTOR DIDN'T EVEN **KNOW** IT---AND AT HIS DEATH ALL HIS PAPERS WERE **BURNED!**

IT'S JUST AS **WELL**, DEAR! AS LONG AS WE HAVE EACH OTHER, **OUR FUTURE'S** GOING TO BE **FINE!**



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REVERSIBLE AUTO SEAT COVERS

MADE OF FLEXTON — SERVICE GAUGE PLASTIC

Colorful SNAKE AND ZEBRA DESIGN

Leather-Leopard Design, Reversible

• Waterproof. Easy to attach to seats for good fit. Roomy and neat. Elastic shirring and reinforced overlap side grips insure over-all seat coverage. Will dress up your car's interior and give protection to seat upholstery. Whisk off mud, oil, sand, grime with a damp rag for bright as new appearance. Sewn with nylon thread for long wear and durability.



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STYLE #400

Snake-Zebra Design—
Printed Plastic can be used
on either side. Gives snappy
distinctive dress up ap-
pearance. Front
or Rear Seat
only

\$2.98

STYLE #500

Leather-Leopard design on
Printed Flexton Plastic.
Leopard on one side, Cow-
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side gives beauty to your
car's seats. Never gets dirty
for it cleans with a whisk
of a damp
cloth. Front or
Rear.

\$2.98



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ORDER TODAY!

ORDER FROM MANUFACTURER AND SAVE!

Choice of split or front seat styles only \$2.98
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Save Money and buy a set today.

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Please send me seat covers I have
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for refund of purchase price if I am not
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From **YOUR EDITOR** to **YOU!**

Greetings again, all you loyal and wonderful fans of "*Forbidden Worlds!*" We're going to have a nice little discussion going in a moment or two—but before we plunge into it, we'd like to take the opportunity to thank all of you for the splendid support which you're giving this, yours and our favorite magazine! At a time when general newsstand sales aren't too high, circulation figures of "*Forbidden Worlds*" have taken an astonishing upswing. We like to feel that this reflects your approval of our editorial policies—which brings us to the subject of this month's conversation. The subject hinges about the expression "*off-beat*."

To be more specific, we're going to talk about off-beat stories. Just what is meant by this description? In the trade, it's applied to stories distinctly off the beaten path—plots with an unusual twist or turn which accent the unexpected. We're not the least afraid to come out and tell you that we've now made a policy of stressing stories of this type—if you haven't already gathered that fact for yourselves through reading the last few issues of "*Forbidden Worlds*." We're proud of this change-over, and consider it a definitely progressive step in our onward-and-upward course. It's a guarantee of the fact that you won't find dull or routine stories in this magazine. Instead, you'll meet up with excitingly unusual yarns which reflect ingenious imagination on the parts of truly able writers. And when you add to this the factor of fine illustration, it should make for a finished product that's right up your alley!

Let's see how all this works out in connection with this issue which you're now reading. "*One Exciting Knight*," for instance. This one's a gorgeous fantasy, creating the kind of wonderful and magical dream world that we all like to conjure up from time to time. It packs thrills with a judicious mixture of laughs, and we hope you like it as much as we do! "*Step*

By Step" is as challenging a plot as has come our way in months, and should keep you enthralled from beginning to end. And as for "*Journey Into The Past*," we're convinced that here's one that can't miss for tense and fascinating entertainment—for a plot that'll keep you wondering for months! We'd like to know what you think of this issue and its stories. Won't you please write us? Address your letters to The Editor, "*Forbidden Worlds*," 45 West 45th Street, New York 36, N. Y. If we have space, we'll print it! Meanwhile, here's a sampling of mail from some of our other correspondents!

"Dear Editor:—

"*Forbidden Worlds*' is my favorite comics magazine. I never miss an issue, and can hardly wait each month to read the wonderful stories you run! Keep up the good work! Your loyal fan—

—Marvin Griele,
New York, N.Y."

"Dear Editor:—

I notice that you people don't have any werewolf, zombie or vampire stories—congratulations! '*Forbidden Worlds*' is showing that it can go places with new and exciting stuff that doesn't offend—and keeps folks coming back for more!

—Mrs. Helen Hoffman,
Austin, Texas."

"Dear Editor:—

A few days ago, I read your '*Forbidden Worlds*,' and was greatly interested in it. Too bad we don't have magazines like it in England! Since I don't want to miss an issue from now on, I'd like information on how I may subscribe.

—Alan Swingewood,
Wordsley, England."

JOURNEY *into the* PAST!

BR-RRRR! WHAT AN IDEA, COMING
HERE, JUST TO READ OLD JOSEPH
LAWRENCE'S WILL! IT'S **SPOOKY!**



IT'S NO BETTER INSIDE,
EITHER! IT -- IT'S AS IF
ALL THE SPIRITS OF
LAWRENCE'S LONG
DEAD ARE CROUCHED
HERE, TRYING TO
**TELL US
SOMETHING!**

DEAD OR NOT, THIS PLACE
AND ITS GROUNDS ARE
WORTH A MILLION, ROGER!
THE QUESTION IS -- **WHICH
OF US INHERITS IT?**



**HOW'S YOUR IMAGI-
NATION, READER? UP
TO AN AMAZING EXPLOIT
BACK INTO A PAST CENTURY?
IF SO, COME ALONG ON A
THRILLING TRIP ON THE WINGS
OF FANCY! FOR A STRANGE
STORY THAT WILL CHALLENGE
AND ENTRANCE, CLIMB ABOARD
ON THIS JOURNEY INTO
THE PAST!**

WELL, WE'RE ALL
HERE, AND YOU'RE
THE LAWYER!
WHY NOT GET ON
WITH THE READING
OF THE WILL? WHO
ELSE CAN WE BE
WAITING FOR?

THAT, MADAM,
WILL BE
APPARENT
WHEN THE
PERSON
ARRIVES!

I'M GOING TO LOOK
AROUND! I
HAVEN'T BEEN IN
THIS DUMP FOR
YEARS!



THIS IS YOUR ANCESTOR, ROGER... **ROGER LAWRENCE THE FIRST!** AMAZING HOW YOU'RE A DEAD RINGER FOR HIM!



YEAH, I'VE HEARD **THAT** BEFORE... IT'S AS IF WE WERE **TWINS!** HEY... WHO'S **THIS?**

BOY, IS **SHE** A DISH! THEY DON'T HAVE GIRLS LIKE THAT AROUND **THESE** DAYS!



YOUR ANCESTOR THOUGHT A LOT OF HER, TOO! HER NAME WAS **MARGARET ANDERS!** MATTER OF FACT, THIS IS THE ONLY PORTRAIT WE'RE NOT SURE PROPERLY BELONGS HERE AT ALL! YOU SEE, THE FIRST ROGER LAWRENCE **HAD** BEEN ENGAGED TO HER... BUT THERE'S NO RECORD AS TO WHETHER THEY ACTUALLY EVER MARRIED...

...AND THEY BOTH SEEM TO HAVE DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE!

MISS MARGARET BLYTHE!



"THAT WAS WHEN I, MARGARET BLYTHE, FIRST ENTERED THIS STORY!"

HEY... SHE LOOKS KIND OF **FAMILIAR!** I'VE SEEN THAT FACE SOMEWHERE BEFORE... I'M **SURE** OF IT!

THIS IS MISS BLYTHE... THE PERSON WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR! WE CAN PROCEED WITH THE READING OF OLD JOSEPH LAWRENCE'S WILL NOW!



...AND WHEN THESE SMALL BEQUESTS ARE TAKEN CARE OF, THE BALANCE OF THE ESTATE, INCLUDING LAWRENCE MANOR, GOES TO **MARGARET BLYTHE!**

WELL, I **NEVER!** SHE'S NOT EVEN A LAWRENCE! HOW DOES **SHE** RATE IT?



"IT WAS THEN THAT I FELT THE FIRST GATHERING OF HATRED, ANTAGONISM..."

SHE'S FROM ANOTHER BRANCH OF THE FAMILY... BUT SHE CLAIMS TO BE DESCENDED FROM THE FIRST ROGER LAWRENCE AND MARGARET ANDERS!

I **KNOW** OUR FAMILY TREE... AND THERE'S NO RECORD OF **THEM** EVER MARRYING! EVERYBODY KNOWS THEY BOTH DISAPPEARED... AND I SAY **THIS GIRL'S A FAKE!**



WELL, IT'S OLD JOSEPH LAWRENCE'S ESTATE... AND SHE CONVINCED **HIM** OF THE LEGITIMACY OF HER CLAIM! SHE SAYS THERE **WAS** A MARRIAGE, AND SHE WAS DESCENDED FROM IT... BUT THAT THE RECORDS WERE **LOST** WHEN THE OLD TOWN HALL BURNED DOWN ON MARCH 14TH, 1704!

WORDS! WORDS! WHAT I WANT IS **PROOF!**





LAWRENCE MANOR IS RIGHTFULLY **OURS**-- AND IF YOU THINK YOU ARE GETTING AWAY WITH THIS---

I'VE GOT IT! I KNEW SHE LOOKED FAMILIAR--AND THERE'S A LITTLE PIECE OF EVIDENCE ON THE WALL WHICH SHOULD CLINCH THE CASE FOR HER! **COME WITH ME, ALL OF YOU!**

SNAP!



LOOK! ANY QUESTION OF HER ANCESTRY **NOW?**

SO WHAT? THAT MIGHT PROVE SHE WAS DESCENDED FROM MARGARET ANDERS-- BUT NOT ROGER LAWRENCE! AND UNLESS WE CAN GET DOCUMENTARY PROOF THAT THOSE TWO HAD MARRIED, WE'RE GOING TO CONTEST THE WILL!

"I TURNED--FACED THE OLD PORTRAIT! AS ITS EYES MET MINE, SOMETHING HAPPENED--SOMETHING **STRANGE!** MY BRAIN REELED DIZZILY, AS IF TO THE CLANGOR OF AN ANCIENT BELL---"

HER--FACE! IT--BRINGS MEMORIES TO ME--**BURIED MEMORIES!** I CAN REMEMBER RUNNING--**RUNNING!**---



C'MON, HONEY! YOU'RE OVER-WROUGHT-- SOME SLEEP'LL FIX YOU UP! NO DOUBT ABOUT IT-- THAT GIRL'S **TOUCHED!**



"I SLEPT--BUT IT WAS A NIGHT-MARE SLEEP! WHAT STRANGE MEMORIES WERE THESE WHICH TORE AT ME?"



THEY'RE COMING AFTER US! **RUN!**



"IT WAS AS IF A VOICE CALLED ME-- A VOICE I ONCE KNEW!"

YOU--- WHO ARE SO LIKE ME! WHAT...MESSAGE HAVE YOU...FOR ME?









"BUT BY THIS TIME, I FELT SECURE! I WAS MARGARET LAWRENCE, MISTRESS OF LAWRENCE MANOR AND I HAD NO MEMORIES OF ANY OTHER LIFE! BUT SUDDENLY, OUT OF NOWHERE, THEY CAME -- STRANGE VISIONS DISTURBING MY DREAMS!"



I-- I'M ALL RIGHT! JUST BAD DREAMS. THAT'S ALL! WHAT -- WHAT DAY IS THIS?

YOUR DREAMS MUST HAVE BEEN BAD, MISTRESS, TO MIX YOU UP THAT WAY! INDEED, IT'S MARCH 14TH -- AND THE YEAR'S 1704, IN CASE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THAT! HA-HA!



"I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING -- BUT AN INNER VOICE DROVE ME TO THE TOWN HALL --"



THANK YOU -- THANK YOU!

SHE'S DAFT!



"BUT, THAT VERY AFTERNOON --"

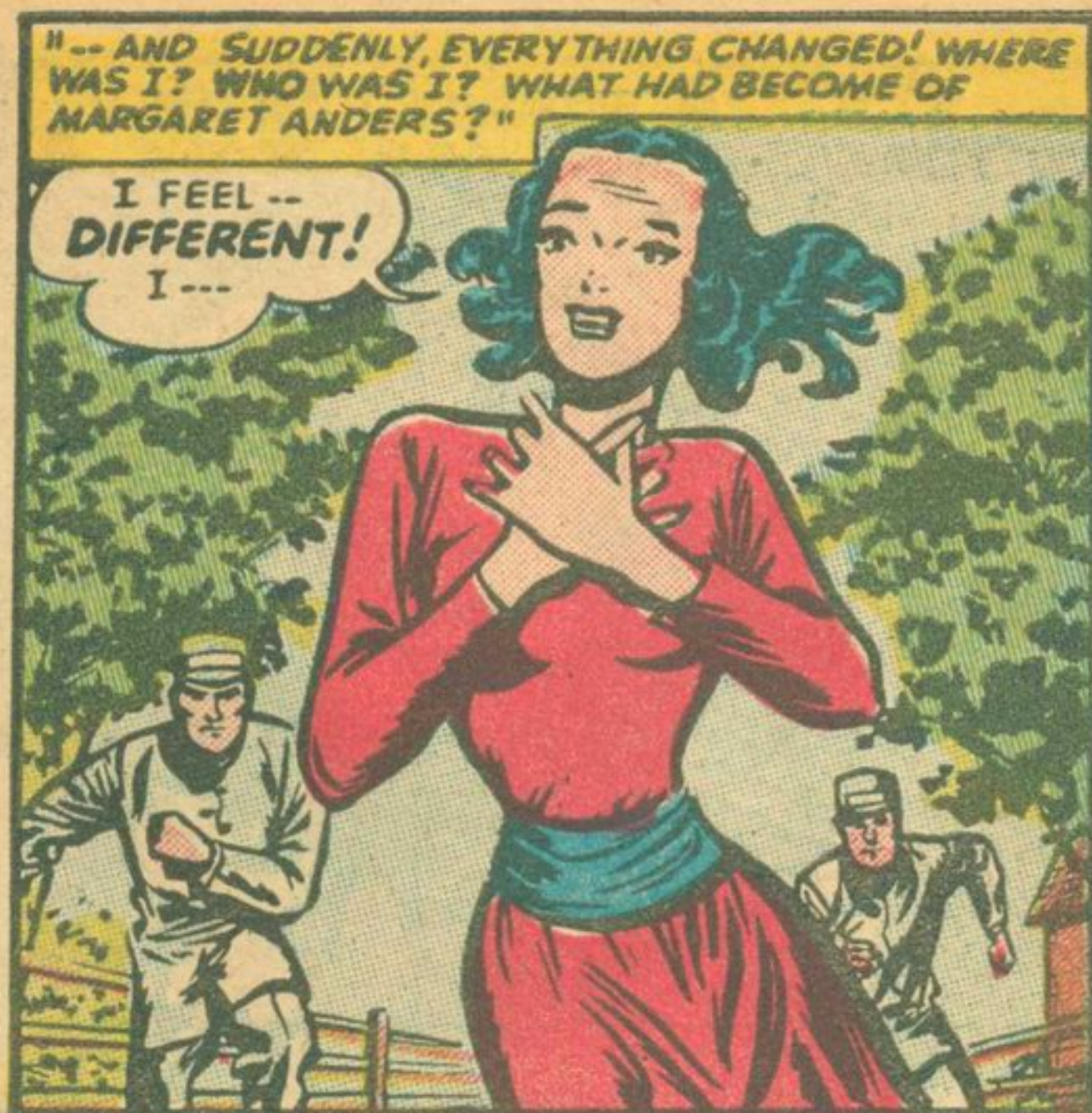


IT HAPPENED -- JUST LIKE SHE SAID IT WOULD!

IT... IT'S NOT NATURAL!









And so ends the story of "JOURNEY INTO THE PAST!"

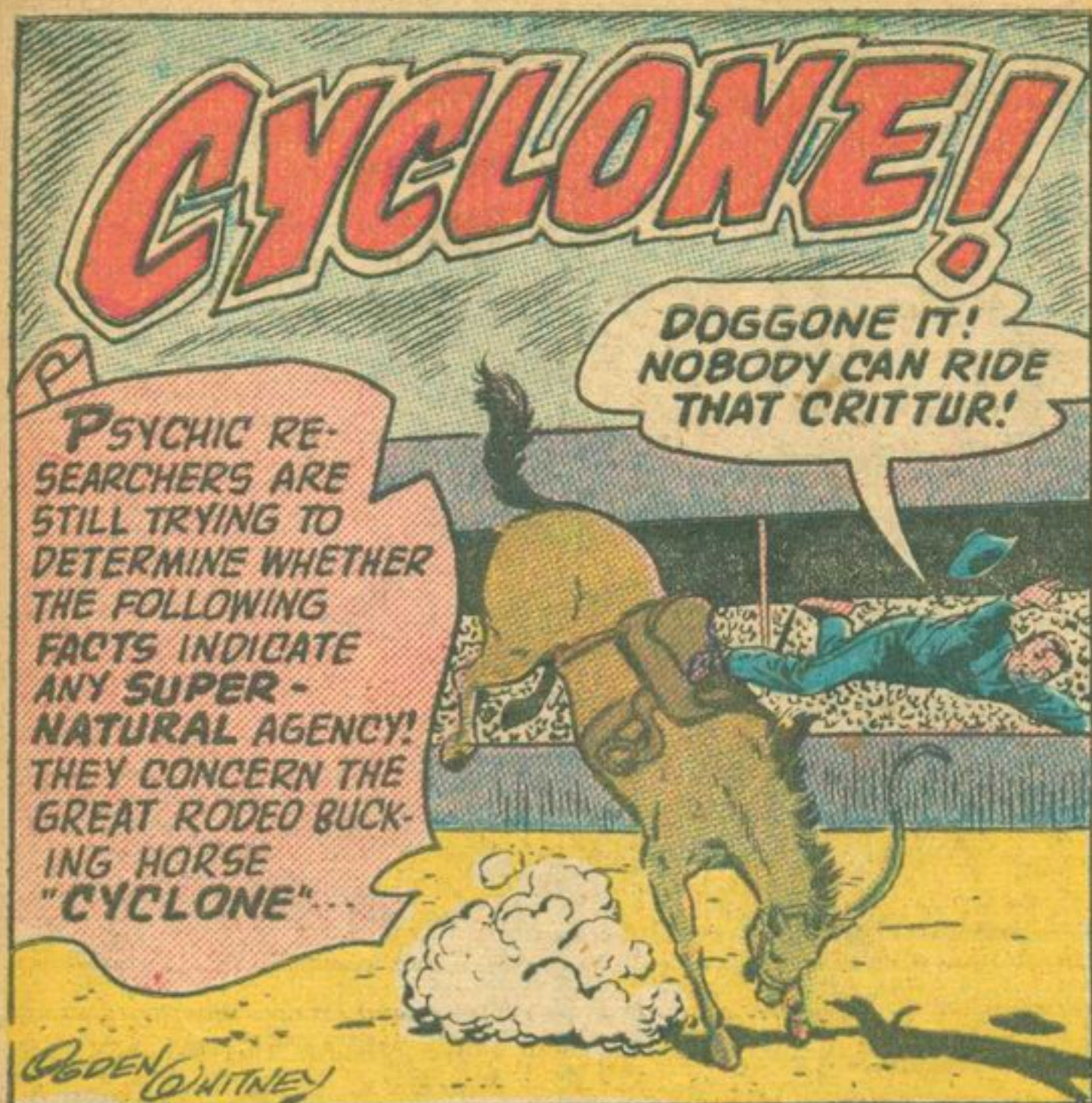
Was all this but a dream-- a figment of a wandering mind?

Or did it **REALLY HAPPEN?**

Remember, there are stranger things in life than mortal man can dream

OF! And so... **FACT OR FICTION?** What do **YOU** think, readers?







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FLASH CAMERA



ROY ROGERS
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POCKET WATCH



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EQUIPMENT



ROLLER
SKATES



WALKING
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JET ENGINE
PLANE FLIES
500 FEET!



TYPEWRITER



WHITE ZIPPER
BIBLE



TABLE TENNIS SET



SEWING MACHINE



BOYS' OR GIRLS
BICYCLE



ARCHERY SET



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SET



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UKULELE
WITH ARTHUR
GODFREY PLAYER



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Please rush to me on 15 days credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos, to sell at 35c each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE. I will remit amount required as explained under description of prize in BIG PRIZE CATALOG within 15 days and select the prize I want or keep a cash commission as explained.

NAME..... AGE.....

STREET or RFD.....

TOWN..... Zone..... STATE.....

SEND NO MONEY!... We Trust You!

The FUNman, Dept. S-129, 5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Illinois

"Hey YOU SKINNY
You look like
SOMETHING
THE CAT
DRAGGED IN!"

the boys yelled as I dragged myself into the gym, says Jowett Pupil, Gleason R. Cleveland. Then I gained 70 lbs. and made the football team.

CLEVELAND
BEFORE
90 lb.
Skeleton



GLEASON
CLEVELAND
AFTER JOWETT
TRAINING
160 lbs. of
Muscle

Now wouldn't YOU
Like To Have A New
Body Like Mine? I added

7 INCHES to my **CHEST**
3 1/2 INCHES to each **ARM**
and to the rest of my
body in proportion as
YOU can.

Yours *John Sill* UTAH

Let's go, young fellow,
Now YOU give me
10 PLEASANT MINUTES A
DAY IN YOUR HOME
LIKE SLIM JOHN SILL DID
and I'll give YOU a New
HE-MAN BODY as I gave
MANY Thousands like You

NO! I don't care how skinny or
flabby you are. I'll make you
OVER by the SAME method I turned
myself from a wreck to the strongest
of the strong. Why can't I do for you
what I did for MANY THOUSANDS of
skinny fellows like You?

Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES
Gain Pounds, INCHES FAST!

YES! You'll see INCHES of MIGHTY
MUSCLE added to your ARMS and
CHEST. Your BACK and SHOULDERS
broadened. From head to heels, you'll
gain SIZE, POWER, SPEED. You'll be
A WINNER in EVERYTHING you tackle.

ONLY MY
5-WAY PROGRESSIVE
POWER SYSTEM
BUILDS YOU
5-WAYS FAST
SO YOU
SAVE YEARS
AND
DOLLARS
!

GEORGE
F. JOWETT
"Champion of
Champions"
4 times Winner
Perfect
Man Contest

like John
BECOME A
MOVIE STAR
HE-MAN

Come on, PAL, NOW YOU ^{do} as I did
in 10 EASY MINUTES of FUN a day
Get a NEW HE-MAN BODY
For Your OLD SKELETON FRAME!

I GAINED 60 LBS.

of SHAPELY
MIGHTY MUSCLES

Mail the "ALL-FREE" coupon
get this "AMAZING
"SECRETS" Photo Book
while you can.

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AMAZING SECRETS
How to WIN
MUSCLES like IRON
NERVES of STEEL
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EXPERT Tells
You How YOU
Can BECOME
An All-Around
ALL-AMERICAN
HE-MAN in

10 MINUTES of
FUN A DAY
IN YOUR HOME.

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while
they
last!

This Book
will also show You
HOW YOU CAN WIN
\$100.00 and A BIG 15" tall
SILVER TROPHY (Your Name On It)
as I have just done.

You'll LOOK like A Real HE-MAN!
WIN WOMEN AND MEN FRIENDS

You'll FEEL like A Real HE-MAN!
Full of New Strength and Self-Confidence

You'll ACT like A Real HE-MAN!
Win in Sports! Win Promotion, Praise, Popular-
ity. Make More Money.

John Sill
was a 125 lb.
Skinny
Weakling

Before \$1 price goes back
YOUR LAST CHANCE
TO GET
ALL 5 FREE!

PICTURE PACKED COURSES
MILLIONS HAVE BEEN SOLD
FOR \$1 AND MORE
Just send me a dime
for postage and handling

How to Build
A MIGHTY
CHEST
How to Build
A MIGHTY
ARMS
How to Build
A MIGHTY
BACK
How to Build
A MIGHTY
LEGS
How to BECOME A
MIGHTY HE-MAN
How to Build
A MIGHTY
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1. Photo Book of STRONG MEN
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Tell Me How To
WIN \$100, etc.

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greatest in
World for
Building
All-Around
HE-MEN"
— R. F. Kelley
Physical
Director

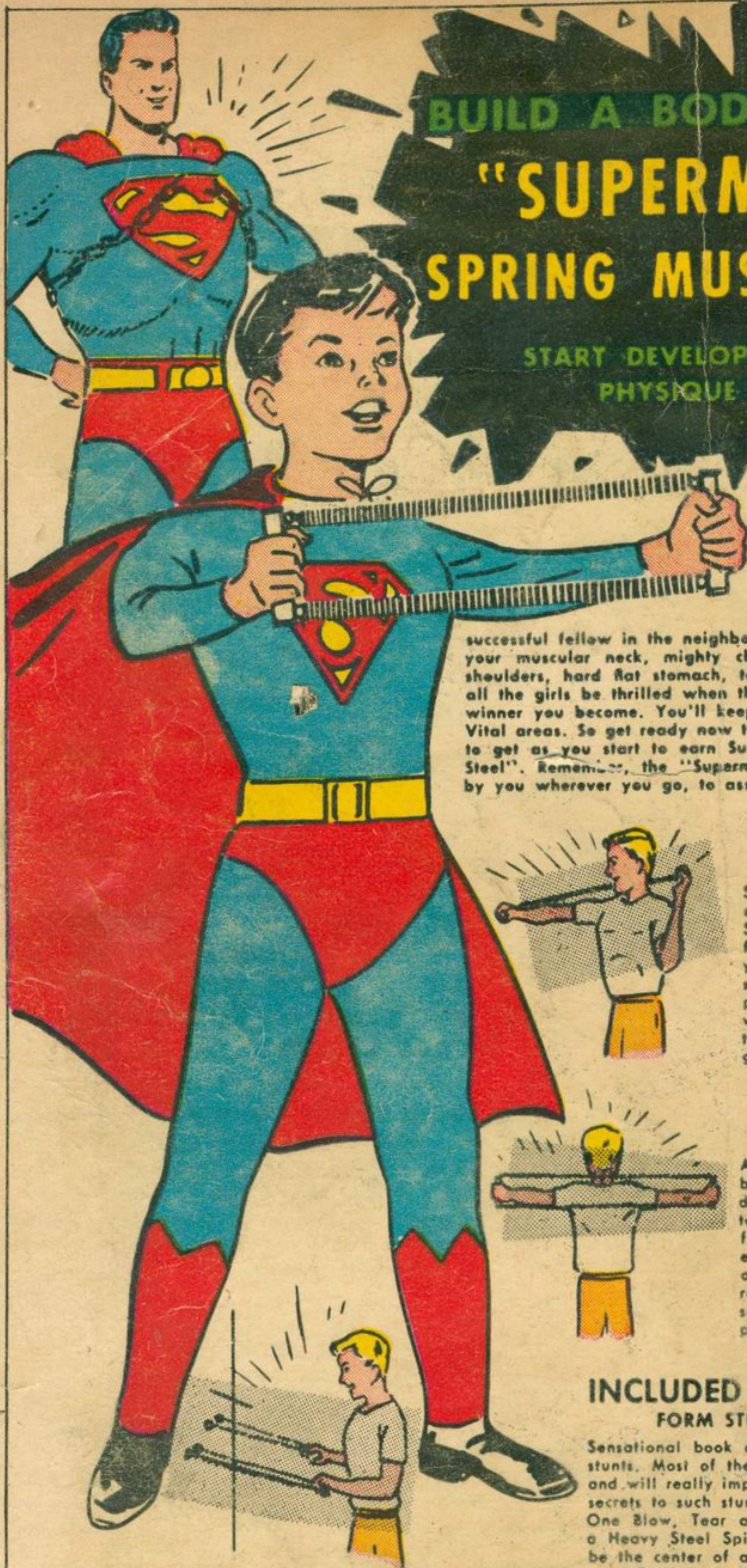
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220 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

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Courses: 1. How to Build a Mighty Chest. 2. How to Build a
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Volume "How to become a Mighty HE-MAN." ENCLOSED FIND 10c
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CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

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ONLY
\$1.98

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Just a few minutes a day use with the "Superman Spring Muscle Builder" and you'll soon be the most popular and successful fellow in the neighborhood. You'll earn the respect of all the fellows as they see your muscular neck, mighty chest, bulging biceps and triceps, your strong back, broad shoulders, hard flat stomach, tough wrist and forearms and your sturdy legs. And, won't all the girls be thrilled when they see how you look on the beach and what an all-around winner you become. You'll keep fit, healthy, and fear no one, as you develop in these 10 Vital areas. So get ready now to handle the rush of new admirers and friends, you're bound to get as you start to earn Superman's title as the "Man of Steel". Remember, the "Superman Developer" can be carried by you wherever you go, to assure you indoor or outdoor fun.

Look Great — Feel Strong

See how this simple stretching exercise with your Superman Spring Exerciser repeated for a few minutes a day will develop your chest, biceps, triceps, shoulder and arms. A few simple variations of this will develop your other vital areas too. You'll really begin to feel good and look terrific.

Have Fun As You Develop

A few exercises like this easy back stretch shown here will develop many parts of your torso, also. You'll have so much fun doing the simple standard exercises, as well as some new ones of your own, that you'll really have a lot of fun at the same time you're building a powerful, muscular frame.

INCLUDED FREE! "HOW TO PER- FORM STRONG MAN STUNTS"

Sensational book of the most popular strong man stunts. Most of them can be performed at a party and will really impress everybody. Included are the secrets to such stunts as How to Crush a Rock With One Blow, Tear a Telephone Book in Half, Bend a Heavy Steel Spike, etc. You're bound to really be the center of attention wherever you go. Order now! Don't delay. Only \$1.98

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|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Neck | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chest | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shoulders | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Triceps | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Biceps | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Forearms | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Legs | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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